



2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



# THE AIRLIFT



# CHRONICLE

## UPDATE

January 12, 2016



GEORGIA  
**AIR NATIONAL  
GUARD**





## VICE WING COMMANDER

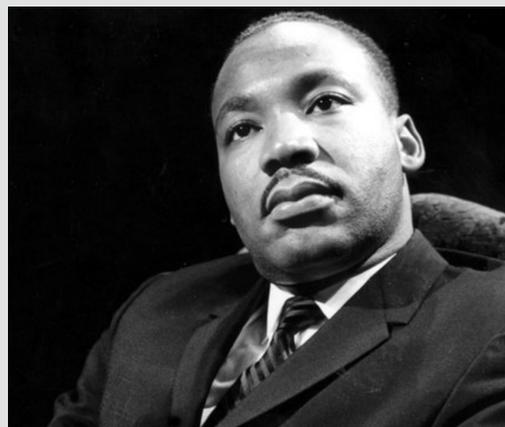
Lt. Col. James Marren is promoted to Colonel.

## 2015 AIRMEN OF THE YEAR

During the December drill, the 165th Airlift Wing Airmen of the Year were announced.

## 117th ACS IN PUERTO RICO

99 117th ACS Airmen deployed to Puerto Rico to train with the 156th Airlift Wing.



## Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Jan. 18, 2016

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

U.S. Air Force parachute riggers conduct training in the Small Air Terminal at the 165th Airlift Wing, Savannah, Ga., Jan. 8, 2016.



## VICE WING COMMANDER PROMOTED

**L**t. Col. James "Cheech" Marren, 165th Airlift Wing Vice Commander, was promoted to the rank of Colonel during a pinning ceremony held Jan. 8 before fellow Airmen and distinguished guests.

Marren commanded the 158th Airlift Squadron, a unit of the 165th Airlift Wing, since 2014 before becoming the Wing's Vice commander in June 2015.

In this role he assists the Wing Commander in defining and establishing the policy, programming, and planning necessary to train and maintain readiness for 1,400 Airmen. The Wing supports both State and Federal missions and has deployed in support of worldwide contingencies such as Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring freedom.

"This is a great milestone for my career," said Marren. "But more importantly, it's great to experience this recognition before my colleagues, friends and family."

As a traditional Guard Officer, Marren has held numerous positions within the Wing. As a civilian pilot, Marren works as a 737 instructor for Delta Airlines. He has served during rotations in the war zones of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Marren is a graduate of Spring Hill College and received his commission through the Academy of Military Sciences in 1991. He has more than 3,000 flying hours with various aircraft including the C-130 H2 models. Marren resides in Cummings, GA with his wife Kara, and their son, Fitzpatrick.

# 2015 AIRMEN OF THE YEAR

## SENIOR NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER

**Master Sgt. Catherine Brown** was named the 2015 Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year for the 165th Airlift Wing.

Brown enlisted in the Air Force Reserve in July 1999. Upon completion of basic training, she attended Communications and Navigations Apprentice School at Keesler, Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS. Brown transferred to the 165th Airlift Wing where she worked aircraft Avionics and Navigation Systems maintenance on the C-130H aircraft before moving to the Comptroller Flight as a Travel Accountant. She currently works at the Base Force Development Office as the Formal Schools Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC).

Her military awards include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Commendation Medal and Achievement Medal. Brown completed a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Leo University and is currently working on a Master's in Business Administration from Webster University.

She resides in Rincon, Ga. with her husband Keith, and their son Xavier.



## NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER

### **Tech. Sgt. Travis R. Register**

Maintenance Management Analyst assigned to the 165th Maintenance Operation Flight, with the 165th Airlift Wing, Georgia Air National Guard received the 2015 Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year award.



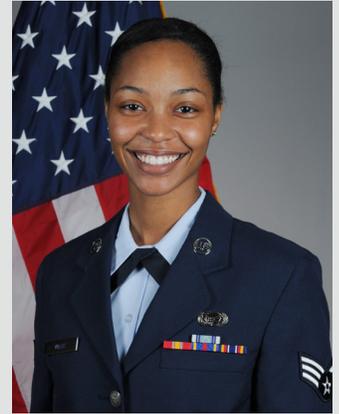
Register graduated from Embry Riddle in 2015 with a Bachelor's in Aeronautics, with a minor in Avionics. While working with the 165th Maintenance Squadron he has served as the Deployment Manager, Training Manager and Production Controller and is currently completing the Non-Commissioned Officer's Academy.

Register is married with three daughters and two foster children.

## AIRMAN

### **Senior Airman Erica A. Willis**

was named as the 2015 Airman of the Year for the 165th Airlift Wing. SrA Willis serves as a Personnel Apprentice in the 165th Logistics Readiness Squadron.



She is recognized for significant contributions to the 165th Airlift Wing which includes assuring all personnel are mission ready.

She obtained her Bachelors of Psychology from Kennesaw State University and works as a Kindergarten Teacher Assistant at Buckhead Preparatory Preschool.

She is a resident of Roswell, Georgia.



U.S. Air Force Col. Keith Edenfield, former Wing Commander of the 165th Airlift Wing, was presented the Legion of Merit by Brig. Gen. Joe Jarrard, the Adjutant General for the State of Georgia while Col. Rainer Gomez, the 165th Airlift Wing Commander reads the citation at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center, during the Wing Christmas party Dec. 5, 2015.



U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Brad Cousar, a C-130 pilot with the 165th Airlift Wing, is welcomed back after his fini-flight by fellow 165th pilots with bottles of champagne and fire extinguishers on the flight line of the 165th AW, Savannah, Ga., Jan. 8, 2016. Celebrating final flights or fini-flights are part of a pilot tradition that came from the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Brandon Patterson/Released)

# EXECUTING THE MISSION, CARIBBEAN CONNECTION



PHOTOGRAPH BY SENIOR AIRMAN WILLIAM METZGAR

Story by: Tech Sgt Marizol Ruiz, 156th Airlift Wing

**AGUADILLA, Puerto Rico** – 99 Airmen from the 117th Air Control Squadron, Georgia Air National Guard and 12 Airmen from the 283rd Combat Communications Squadron, Atlanta, Georgia in conjunction with 141st Air Control Squadron, Puerto Rico Air National Guard, pulled live feeds from deployed radar during an annual field training exercise called “Caribbean Connection” on Nov. 9 thru 20, 2015.

The mobile equipment to be set up in a tactical environment in Puerto Rico was flown in on three separate C-130s and one C-17 cargo planes.

The deployed radar was tied into three different sites to create an aggressive communications triad exercise and an operational exercise to control aircraft off the coast of Georgia.

Center in Salinas, and the third site was out of Savannah Georgia.



PHOTOGRAPH BY SRA WILLIAM METZGAR

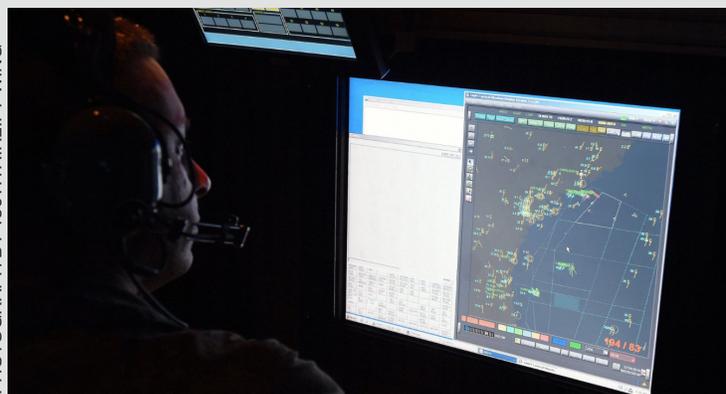
Staff Sgt. Timothy Holcomb and Tech. Sgt. Tommy Carroll secure a pallet to convey to San Juan prior to returning to fly home.

“Caribbean Connection is what my unit named it,” said Chief Master Sgt. Eric Anderson, Branch Chief for the GANG. “We came down from Savannah, Georgia and set up deployed radar; where we could reach back to Savannah with live feeds so operators could control live missions from here.”

“Our mission has been a huge success since we left home,” he said. “All the way from doing the mobility process of loading equipment onto the aircrafts, to bringing it here to P.R. and convoying all our equipment across the mountains to set up camp at the main radar site in Aguadilla.”

According to the 117th ACS Commander Lt.

**CONTINUED**



PHOTOGRAPH BY 156TH AIRLIFT WING

The main base for the exercise was the 141st Air Control Squadron out of the Punta Borinquen Radar Site in Ramey, Aguadilla, the second was out of Camp Santiago Joint Maneuver Training

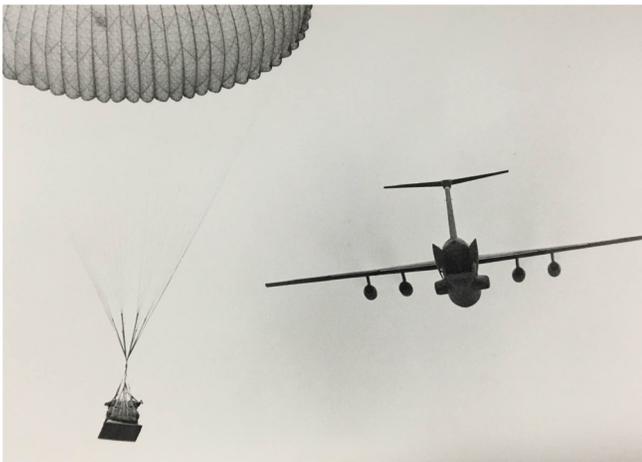
## CARIBBEAN CONNECTION CONTINUED

Col. Ron Speir, the exercise goals were met. "We have been able to complete our top objectives because we were able to remote the radars, radios and data links from Savannah to PR," said Speir. "We were controlling aircraft like we would if we were deployed to other areas of the globe."

At the same time with the 117th ACS, another notch is etched into the history of time of the 141st ACS, because as the main radar site, the squadron successfully controlled live aircraft during the exercise also. The 141st has not controlled live aircraft from their site since 1997.

"The team work has been outstanding between the 141st ACS and the 117th ACS," said Speir. "I have been in the ANG for 28 years, and this has probably been the best annual training exercise for our unit."

In conjunction with the 117th ACS, the 141st ACS will have the capability to use their satellite to tie in to the Savannah system and periodically have the opportunity to control live aircraft off the coast of Georgia for their training.



**Our heritage is important! Help us make #TBT happen by sharing some of your favorite old 165th AW photos and captions with us on Facebook!**

## SOCIAL MEDIA TIP



### WHAT'S GEOTAGGING?

Geotagging adds geographical identification data to photos, videos, websites and text messages

through location-based applications. This technology helps people find images and information based on a location from a mobile device or desktop computer.

### HOW SHOULD AIRMEN BE USING GEOTAGGING?

Airmen should be cautious when enabling the geotagging feature on mobile, location-based apps because they could potentially create personal and operational security risks. Disable geotagging at sensitive or deployed locations.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Be sure to check out the Air Force Social Media Guide by following the link below:

<http://www.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/Social-MediaGuide2013.pdf>



## ON FACEBOOK?

Give us a "like"



@  
165TH AIRLIFT WING